

Message Text

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ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 ACDA-12
AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02
DOE-11 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 JUSE-00
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 013601

BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC FOR INFO

E.O. 11652:GDS
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TAGS: PLOS, AF

SUBJECT:LOS: APPROACHES TO SELECTED AFRICAN COUNTRIES

1. IN VIEW OF THE NUMERICAL POWER WIELDED BY THE AFRICAN
GROUP AT THE LOS CONFERENCE, WE INTEND TO APPROACH SELECTED

GOVERNMENTS IN CAPITALS IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENCOURAGE REASON-
ABLENESS TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SEABED MINING REGIME
THAT TRULY SERVES THE INTERESTS OF BOTH POTENTIAL MINING
COUNTRIES FROM AMONG DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING STATES AND
THOSE COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NO SUCH POTENTIAL INDIVIDUALLY
BUT THAT WOULD BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM A VIABLE, OPERATING
ENTERPRISE AND FROM REVENUE SHARING DERIVED FROM ALL SOUR-
CES OF MINING. TO BE USEFUL, SUCH APPROACHES MUST BE MADE
BEFORE THE FEBRUARY 6-17 INTERSESSIONAL MEETING IN NEW YORK,
WHERE SELECTED SEABEDS ISSUES WILL CONSTITUTE FIRST AGENDA
ITEM.

2. THE COUNTRIES WE HAVE IN MIND ARE SUDAN, BOTSWANA, GABON
ZAIRE, ZAMBIA, MAURITIUS AND LIBERIA, NONE OF WHICH HAS
PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE IN LOS TO DATE, AND ALL OF WHICH
COULD POTENTIALLY BRING MODERATE INFLUENCE TO BEAR IN THE
OAU AND GROUP OF 77. WE HAVE NOT INCLUDED TANZANIA, SENE-
GAL, KENYA AND NIGERIA ONLY BECAUSE WE HAVE ALREADY ESTAB-
LISHED GOOD COMMUNICATIONS WITH SENIOR LOS OFFICIALS IN

THOSE COUNTRIES AND BELIEVE NO GOOD PURPOSE WOULD BE SERV-
ED BY APPEARING TO BE APPEALING OVER THEIR HEADS TO MORE
SENIOR OFFICIALS.

3. BEFORE UNDERTAKING THESE APPROACHES, WE REQUEST EMBAS-
SIES TO INFORM APPROPRIATE BELGIAN, BRITISH AND FRENCH
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OFFICIALS OF OUR INTENTION AND SOLICIT THEIR VIEWS, IN-
CLUDING WHETHER THEY BELIEVE IT WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE TO
MAKE APPROACHES JOINTLY IN SOME CASES, E.G., WITH THE
FRENCH IN LIBREVILLE, OR IN TANDEM. IN VIEW OF IMMINENCE
OF INTERSESSIONAL MEETING, WE WOULD APPRECIATE HOST GOVERN-
MENT RESPONSES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

CHRISTOPHER

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